

1-1 By: Ellis, Carona S.B. No. 2041  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 12, 2009; March 31, 2009, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland  
1-4 Security; April 8, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 8, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to requiring an applicant for a driver's license to  
1-9 demonstrate knowledge of motorists' rights and responsibilities in  
1-10 relation to bicyclists.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 521.161,  
1-13 Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-14 (b) The examination must include:

1-15 (1) a test of the applicant's:

1-16 (A) vision;

1-17 (B) ability to identify and understand highway  
1-18 signs in English that regulate, warn, or direct traffic; ~~and~~

1-19 (C) knowledge of the traffic laws of this state;  
1-20 and

1-21 (D) knowledge of motorists' rights and  
1-22 responsibilities in relation to bicyclists;

1-23 (2) a demonstration of the applicant's ability to  
1-24 exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a  
1-25 motor vehicle of the type that the applicant will be licensed to  
1-26 operate; and

1-27 (3) any additional examination the department finds  
1-28 necessary to determine the applicant's fitness to operate a motor  
1-29 vehicle safely.

1-30 (c) The department shall give each applicant the option of  
1-31 taking the parts ~~[traffic law and highway sign part]~~ of the  
1-32 examination under Subsections (b)(1)(B), (C), and (D) in writing in  
1-33 addition to or instead of through a mechanical, electronic, or  
1-34 other testing method. If the applicant takes that part of the  
1-35 examination in writing in addition to another testing method, the  
1-36 applicant is considered to have passed that part of the examination  
1-37 if the applicant passes either version of the examination. The  
1-38 department shall inform each person taking the examination of the  
1-39 person's rights under this subsection.

1-40 SECTION 2. A driver's license examination administered by  
1-41 the Department of Public Safety is not required to include a  
1-42 question required by Paragraph (D), Subdivision (1), Subsection  
1-43 (b), Section 521.161, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, if  
1-44 the examination is administered before February 1, 2010.

1-45 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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